

Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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Editorial

Thoroughness

Said a good farmer to his boy, learning his first lessons with the hoe. "If it takes all day at a single hill of corn, hoe it just right." Of course it would not be profitable to spend a whole day on one stalk of corn, but it is profitable to learn the lesson and acquire the habit of thoroughness. Then with skill always come the ability to work rapidly. The expert can always do more than the slouch, besides doing it better. It is getting so now in the fierce competition there is in all lines of business that only the thorough man can get along. See the crowd of the slipshod part to make room for him. Every moment he leaves a multitude behind him. Be thorough, *be thorough*, BE THOROUGH: This is the ringing motto we offer to the young men and young women who are entering the race of life. Whether it be in little things, commonplace things, or great things, let the habit of thoroughness become so confirmed that it will appear in all your actions, your daily tasks, your words, thoughts, and purposes. If your calling is the humblest in the world, become such a master of it that every body will seek you. Pluck, Perseverance and Providence will win the day for you, no matter who or what opposes.

William's Pilgrimage

The forthcoming pilgrimage of the Emperor of Germany to Jerusalem is a spectacular performance which reminds one of the crusaders. It also illustrates how times have changed since the chivalric days of Conrad, and Baldwin, and Richard the lion-hearted. Then no Christian potentate might see the holy city but at the head of a conquering army. Now William the restless goes peacefully and with great eclat. Yea the Turk laboriously builds for him a highway, such roads as our Lord journeyed over being too rough for the imperial feet. The Kaiser goes, it is said, to dedicate a Lutheran church in Jerusalem. But under this cloak of the sober color of devotion William hides a political purpose, so the wise men say. For a long time he has been the very dear friend of that murder monopolist, the Sultan, who but for the backing he got from Germany might have been brought to justice for the Armenian massacres. It was one of those leagues with death and covenants with hell of which the politics of the world seems to be so capable. If it might bring him an inspiration of wisdom, humanity and justice,

the world could well afford to wish William a prosperous journey and a safe return. Otherwise how easily could the world spare him.

The Soul's Need

Strictly speaking the soul has but one need, and that the Christ of God in all his various offices of priest, king, and prophet. There is but one essential to the soul's salvation, and that one faith in the living, personal, triumphant Christ. The soul needs the Christ, and having him it has everything that is worth having. P. T. Forsyth says: We need not only the risen Christ but the returned Christ; not only the historic Christ nor the heavenly, but the spiritual, the intimate, the husband of the soul in its daily vigor, its daily conflict, its daily fear, its daily joy, its daily sorrow, its daily faith, hope, love. We need, O how we need, a Lord and Master, a Lover and King of our single, inmost, shameful, precious souls, the Giver and the Goal of our most personal salvation, a Conscience within our conscience, a Heart amidst our heart, and its ruins and resurrection.

The Luther Beer Garden

A brewing Company proposes to establish a beer garden in the Luther house at Eisenach, Germany, the home of the great Reformer. Luther himself, it will be remembered, was fond of his glass of beer, in memory of which German enthusiasts who visit the Luther house frequently express a desire to drink a glass of beer at the table where Luther used to sit. Perhaps after all the brewer's idea is merely a logical outgrowth of the Reformer's questionable thirst. It was not so questionable then, but after three hundred years Christian public sentiment has greatly changed, and drinking has become well nigh a crime. A beer garden to commemorate Luther: What a nauseating idea. Be careful what you do. There's no telling what may come of it three hundred years hence.

Getting Back To Christ

The great cry of the age is to get back to Christ. But getting back to Christ does not mean going back to the times of Christ; God forbid. We are not travelling that way. We are going forward; the watchword of the Christian is, "Go forward." We do not want to get back to the days of Christ or of the apostles; we have come to a better day than theirs, and we are going on toward a more glorious day yet. The golden age of

which the poet sings is not in the past, it is in the future. Yet the world needs to get back to the principles of Christ and the practices of the apostolic days. It needs to get back in its faith and practice to primitive Christianity. It is not desirable to go back and live in the days when Christ lived. That would put us 2,000 years behind the age. But it is most desirable that the world today should live the life which Christ lived almost 2,000 years ago.

Apt to Teach

Preachers should not take it for granted that because a subject, a doctrine, an exposition is plain as A B C to them it is also plain to the listeners. You are a studious and hardworking preacher, just as you ought to be. You have familiarized yourself with a system of doctrines; you have specialized a mass of knowledge on spiritual themes; you have theology for a steady diet; all these things are so constantly apparent and transparent to your mind that you are likely to fall into the supposition that your hearers are equally facile in comprehension of them. This is a mistake. While you are specializing theology they are specializing some form of business. They are less familiar with your line of thought than you are with theirs. It is astonishing how much ignorance there is among the rank and file of church members on spiritual and doctrinal subjects, and no church is exempt from this criticism. The fault lies with the preachers who do not take pains to instruct them. The pulpit is too much given to generalization. And then there are the fewest preachers who can be elaborate and exhaustive without being tedious. Oh, thou preacher, cease from the sin of dullness.

Work and Results

Most people do work enough but it does not count for enough. They are busy and one would think that they accomplish a great deal, but the truth is what they do amounts to very little for the reason that there is so little of Christ in it. It were far better therefore if we would do less and get more of the divine into what we do. The minister may put a great deal of work on a sermon but if the sermon is Christless his work will be in vain. The same may be said of the Sunday-school teacher and of every one who aims to be useful in life and a great blessing in the world. Not less work, but more of Christ in what we do, is the great need of the hour. We have not been doing too much, but we have been doing too much work with too lit-